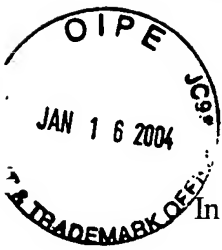


03500.017603

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Jun MOCHIZUKI, et al.) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/665,427) Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: September 22, 2003)
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS) January 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449. A copy of the non-English patent document and an English abstract are also enclosed.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>GROUP ART UNIT</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>APPLICANT</u>
10/671,690	09/29/2003	Unassigned	Pending	Saito, et al.
10/607,309	05/27/2003	2852	Pending	Tomizawa

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Official Action has not been received in the above-identified application, neither a Statement, Petition, nor payment of a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, which may be deemed necessary in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 11-109689 is discussed at least at page 9, lines 11 through 21 of the specification. U.S. Patent Nos. 6,226,469 and 6,385,409, and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001-0009614 A1 are identified as being in the family of Japanese Patent Document No. 11-109689.

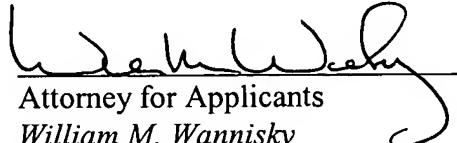
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants
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WMW:tas

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017603		APPLICATION NO. 10/665,427	
Submitted to the PTO: January 16, 2004			APPLICANT Jun MOCHIZUKI, et al.			
			FILING DATE September 22, 2003		GROUP 2852	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	6,167,212	12/26/00	Satoh, et al.	399	55		
	6,226,469 B1	05/01/01	Suzuki, et al.	399	66		
	2001/0009614 A1	07/26/01	Suzuki, et al.	399	44		
	6,272,306 B1	08/07/01	Saito, et al.	399	270		
	6,385,409 B2	05/07/02	Suzuki, et al.	399	66		
	6,434,348 B1	08/13/02	Tomizawa	399	66		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
11-109689	04/23/99	Japan			Abstract		

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1